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RESPONSE

'DPRK supports itself and creates its own success'

"'Ever-changing and hope-cultivating city', this is our impression of Pyongyang. The DPRK is achieving sustainable economic development in the face of harsh sanctions. Streets are full of vigour, the people live together harmoniously and children are frolicking."

"The DPRK is far from what the Western media say. Most surprising is that the country has built wonderful streets even under the protracted sanctions."

"I saw a newly changed look of Pyongyang quite different from what I had seen two years ago. The ever-changing looks of the DPRK made me feel again the vitality of the Juche idea and the mettle of the Korean people who are building a powerful socialist country, closely rallying around their leader."

These are part of the response of the international community to the DPRK's reality.

The president of the Guinean association for the study of the Juche idea on literature said his DPRK tour was very impressive. "I could not but admire whatever I saw there, modern apartment houses, cultural and leisure centres and others for the working people.

They are quite contrary to the Western propaganda. Seeing is believing. You'd better visit the country if you want to know the DPRK."

A Spanish tourist said: "I was deeply impressed while walking along the streets of Pyongyang. It is a modern and beautiful city and its citizens are friendly. I advise those who are prejudiced against the DPRK to go and see the reality there. We have to have a correct understanding of the country, which does whatever it decides to do despite the sanctions, and should no longer lend an ear to the false Western propaganda."

Russian website *DPRK Today* posted an article, saying that the statements of visitors to the DPRK are in marked contrast to the Western propaganda.

Actually, the level of civilization and mode of life of the Korean people are totally different from what the Western media say, it said.

In Pyongyang alone, there are the Munsu Water Park, the Rungna People's Recreation Ground and other good amusement parks, recreation grounds, theatres and cinemas, it noted.

"Department stores are filled with consumer goods many enough to satisfy the demand of customers.

"The Korean people are very interested in creation and innovation.

"Such an aspiration is probably motivated by the awareness that they must develop the economy by their own efforts and technology."

Cambodian newspaper *The Khmer Times* carried an article about the DPRK visit of its delegation. It said:

The Tower of the Juche Idea built in celebration of the 70th birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung caught our eyes first in Pyongyang.

The DPRK is a country strong in the spirit of self-reliance, which regards the Juche idea as the firm guidelines in Party and government activities.

The word "Juche" is engraved in the mind of the Korean people, who built a genuine socialist system on the basis of self-reliance and self-development.

"Juche" is the source of strength that propels the DPRK's economy.

Compiled from KCNA

LETTER

UN urged to take action to check US outrage

"Recently, the United States committed an unlawful and outrageous act of forcibly taking a DPRK's cargo ship to American Samoa, charging it with violating the American domestic law, and it clearly reveals that the US is indeed a rogue state that does not care about even international law at all," wrote Kim Song, DPRK's permanent representative to UN, in a letter sent to Antonio Manuel de Oliveira Guterres, secretary general of the United Nations, with regard to the US' seizure of the *Wise Honest* of the DPRK.

Unilateral sanctions, such as the anti-DPRK "Sanctions Act" based on the US domestic law the United States has provided as a pretext for the seizure of the ship, are defined as an illegal act that runs counter to the UN Charter and international law, in accordance with the resolution adopted at the 62nd Session of the UN General

Assembly, he said, and it is also a universally recognized principle of international law that in no case can a sovereign state be under the jurisdiction of other countries.

Moreover, the United States committed an infringement of sovereignty that flagrantly tramples underfoot the UN Charter by dispossessing the cargo ship over which the DPRK's sovereignty is fully exercised, he noted.

"Since worldwide concern is growing more serious than ever before over the consequences of the brigandish US act for the Korean peninsula situation, I believe that the Secretary General of the United Nations will have to take emergency measures so as to contribute to the stability of the Korean peninsula and prove the impartiality of the UN".

Compiled from KCNA

SOLIDARITY

Intl organizations call for implementation of DPRK-US deal

Organizations of Latin American countries issued a joint statement to mark the first anniversary of the June 12 DPRK-US Joint Statement.

They include the Ecuadorian Committee for Remembering President Kim Il Sung, the Ecuadorian Committee for Remembering Generalissimo Kim Jong Il, the Ecuadorian Cultural Institute for the Study of the Juche Idea, the Ecuadorian Committee for Supporting Korea's Independent and Peaceful Reunification, the Guaranda Association for Friendship, Culture and Solidarity with the Korean People of Ecuador, the Peruvian-Korean Institute of Culture and Friendship and the Colombia-Korea Friendship Association.

The joint statement referred to the historic significance of the Singapore DPRK-US summit meeting and talks, saying they are opposed to all sorts of sanctions against the DPRK.

Expressing the belief that the DPRK-US joint statement would be thoroughly implemented, it appealed to all the peace-loving people of the world to actively support the Korean people in their efforts to achieve the reunification of the Korean peninsula and build a powerful socialist country.

The Asia-Pacific Regional Committee for Supporting Peaceful Reunification of Korea, in a statement, said that the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Committee to Support the Reunification of Korea suggested setting the period from April 27 to June 12, the first anniversaries of the historic Panmunjom Declaration and the June 12 DPRK-US joint statement, as the "period of international actions for peace, prosperity and reunification of the Korean peninsula," and expressed support for it.

Compiled from KCNA

ECONOMY

Production goes up in various sectors

Different economic sectors are achieving good results in production and technical upgrading.

The Pukchang Thermal Power Complex and Chongchongang Thermal Power Station applied dozens of new technical

innovation plans to production this year, thereby increasing their production capacity constantly.

In particular, the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex invented an insulating tape which is highly resistant to

high temperature for normal operation of motors and a feed-waterpreheater for boilers, while speeding up the introduction of a high-temperature air and pulverized anthracite combustion stabilization technology into all boilers,

The coal-mining industry is securing more coalfields by giving definite precedence to tunnelling.

According to information available, reserve coal pits increased 1.2 times recently as compared to the same period of last year.

The Tokchon Area Coal-mining Complex has recently secured lots of new coalfields by pressing ahead with tunnelling while directing primary efforts to prospecting for coalfields



KIM JIN MYONG / RODONG SINMUN

Two employees monitor the processing of a piece of custom-built equipment at the Taean Heavy Machine Complex.

SEE PAGE 2

LEAD

People-first principle underlies DPRK politics

Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un pointed to the need to apply the people-first principle to the letter in all aspects of state activities and social life in the policy speech he delivered at the First Session of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK.

The people-first principle embodies the revolutionary philosophy of Juche that puts forward the people as the most precious and powerful beings in the world and the steadfast stand of the Workers' Party of Korea and the government that boundlessly love the people and are determined to satisfy their demands and interests.

The DPRK has faithfully served the people, regarding them as the masters of the state and society.

President Kim Il Sung and Chairman Kim Jong Il always found themselves among them all their lives, taking it as their creed.

They mixed with ordinary

workers and farmers to discuss state affairs and find out solutions to problems and courageously overcame all hardships in the way of the revolution by mobilizing them.

As it has given free rein to the people's creative wisdom and strength with absolute trust in them, the DPRK has won victory after victory in the face of all difficulties unprecedented in history as it stepped up the building of a powerful socialist nation by leaps and bounds to perform world-startling miracles in succession.

Under the slogan "Everything for the people and everything by relying on them!" it has prioritized and absolutized the things that serve the masses of the people in all aspects of state activities and social life and spared nothing for the promotion of their well-being.

In recent years it carried out gigantic construction projects to build such new streets as

Changjon, Mirae Scientists and Ryomyong streets lined with wonderful houses and such public amenities as the Masikryong Ski Resort, Rungna People's Recreation Ground and Rungna Dophinarium through which the people's happy laughter reverberates.

The government does never tolerate those who encroach on the people's interests or abuse power and practise bureaucracy by lording it over them, and therefore it tightens legal control on all practices of going against their demands and interests, thereby ensuring social stability and order.

The state selflessly and devotedly serves the people and the latter support it in all sincerity as they entrust their destiny and future to the former—herein lie the true looks of the DPRK which fully embodies the people-first principle.

By Pang Un Ju PT

INAUGURATION

Projects completed



An inside view of the newly-built Taesongsan Spring Water Factory.

A modern spring water factory has been built in the Mt Taesong area in Pyongyang.

An inauguration ceremony was held on May 18.

The speaker at the ceremony called on officials and employees of the factory to produce quality spring water for its regular supply to Pyongyang citizens by conducting

equipment and technical management scrupulously as required by technical regulations and normalizing the production.

The Samjiyon Potato Farina Factory has set up a new production line of processed potato foods including nutritive potato grain, noodles, vermicelli and twist.

On the basis of experience it gained while building a standard factory capable of producing potato farina for the first time in the country, the factory finished the assembly of equipment in a little over a month according to the design and had a successful trial run of each production process.

It made it possible for the factory to mass-produce tasty and nutritious processed potato foods as well as potato farina.

Compiled from KCNA

Economy: Production picks up

FROM PAGE 1

with rich deposits and favourable mining conditions. In keeping with the progress in tunnelling it has concentrated its manpower on mining to increase production. The Pukchang Area Youth Coal-mining Complex has markedly increased reserve coal pits so far this year as compared to the same period of last year, while the Suncheon Area Youth Coal-mining Complex and coal mines in Kaechon, Tukjang and other areas have also secured more coal pits and coal reserves.

The Tokchon Coal-mining Machine Factory carried out its half-yearly economic plan over one month ahead of schedule by making technical innovations.

The factory established a technology for increasing the air output of compressors to boost their performance 1.2 times, set up a production process of the drill bit with two holes based on die casting and remodelled a screw press into a hydraulic one to improve its performance more than two times. As a result, it turned out enough small tools needed at cutting faces along with such major facilities as electric car, pump and conveyor and lots of loaders capable of operating at any faces with low

power consumption.

The Chollima Steel Complex is expediting the production of forgings for thermal power stations.

It forged in a short period a variety of machine parts like gears and speed reducer spindles needed for power generation at the Pukchang Thermal Power Complex and other power producers.

The port and water transport management bureau of the Ministry of Land and Maritime Transport is pushing the manufacture of 45-ton container crane to be installed in the Nampho Port.

By Yun Kyong Il PT

INSPECTION

Premier visits economic establishments

Premier Kim Jae Ryong, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and member of the State Affairs Commission of the DPRK, inspected the Suncheon Thermal Power Station, the Chollima Steel Complex, the Posan Iron Works and Pongchon and Paechon counties.

Looking round various places of the power plant, Kim Jae Ryong said that as the integrated power production system has been set up, officials and technicians should improve the technical management of the equipment and introduce new technical innovation plans actively to raise the efficiency of the generating equipment.

At the Chollima Steel

Complex and the Posan Iron Works he stressed the need to increase the production of iron and steel to be sent to major construction sites by making an effective use of the existing production capacity and taking appropriate measures to ensure the supply of electricity.

The field consultative meetings discussed measures to ensure the normal operation and repair of the generating equipment and the timely supply of materials needed for the production of iron and steel by the relevant sectors.

He also made a field survey of the Sindap Cooperative Farm of Pongchon County and Paechon County to learn about their farming.

Compiled from KCNA



KCNA

Premier Kim Jae Ryong (left) makes a survey trip to the Suncheon Thermal Power Station.

RELATIONS

DPRK delegation chief talks with Cuban vice-president

Talks were held at the building of the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba on May 22 between Ri Su Yong, member of the Political Bureau and vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on a visit to Cuba as head of a Party and government delegation of the DPRK, and Roberto Morales, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, vice-president of the Council of State and vice-president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

Roberto Morales asked Ri Su Yong to relay the warm regards he sends on behalf of the Cuban Party, government and people to Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

He described the current visit of the Korean Party and government delegation as a clear manifestation of the Korean people's sincere support for

and solidarity with the Cuban revolution.

Noting that the peoples of the two countries are overcoming ordeals and difficulties shoulder to shoulder, he said it is the firm stand of the Cuban Party and government to invariably expand and develop the ties of friendship and cooperation with the DPRK.

The talks proceeded in a comradely and amicable atmosphere.

Present at the talks from the DPRK side were members of the delegation and the DPRK ambassador to Cuba and from the Cuban side the deputy head of the International Department of the CPC Central Committee, a deputy foreign minister and officials concerned.

That day, a reception was given for the Korean Party and government delegation

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AGRICULTURE

More farms eager to adopt conservative farming

Amid the growing worldwide tendency towards scientific and intensive farming, the conservative agriculture draws particular interest of local farms.

Conservative agriculture is an advanced farming method which makes it possible to improve ecological environment and increase agricultural production sustainably by making an effective use of the features of soil with self-protective capacity, including seed sowing by covering the soil surface with grain straw or green manure crops and applying non-tillage or minimum tillage.

At present, this method, or non-tillage mulching, is widely encouraged and introduced into the wide areas of farmland in many countries.

A project is now under way in the DPRK to introduce the method to suit the local conditions.

Research teams have been organized in the government and provinces, cities and counties to draw up scientific and technical indices of this farming method to suit the specific local conditions.

Workshops, intensive training courses and seminars are held to improve the level of scientific and technical knowledge of farmers and generalize the experience gained by the farms at the forefront of its introduction.

Now many farms are eager to apply the advanced farming method.

The rural community in Kangwon Province works to improve weeding effect by covering soil with grain straws and green manure crops and reduce damage from high temperature, drought and flood by preventing soil from being washed away by soil transpiration and rainwater. Farms in Mundok, Sukchon, Yonan, Kangnyong and other counties in South Phyongan and South Hwanghae provinces are covering soil surface with rice straw by using rice combine



harvesters.

The Rihyon Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Sadong District, Pyongyang, is introducing a green manure crop cultivation method into low-fertility fields by making a green manure crop burying machine. The multipurpose machine is able to do a variety of work at the same time including levelling and ridge-making while burying green manure crops in soil. According to a technical official of the farm, it was given a test run and proved effective in practice as it improved working efficiency and soil fertility while saving much labour, oil and time.

The Taeco Cooperative Farm in Unjon County and the Tansan Cooperative Farm in Pakchon County of North Phyongan Province have pushed forward with the project to employ the non-tillage mulching cultivation to suit their specific conditions in recent years.

The Taeco Cooperative Farm is stepping up the introduction of this cultivation method into all paddy fields except rice-seedling beds and fields for later crop farming this year. According to the non-tillage ridged cultivation method the farm has applied, paddy ridges are built 1.2m wide while 20-30cm wide furrows are made with the ridge-making plough of tractors between early and mid-April, soil that comes up over the

ridge when making furrows is levelled evenly over the ridge at the same time and after ridge-making, weeding is done before rice-transplanting begins.

Farmers say that the non-tillage ridged cultivation helped protect soil as there is no soil compaction and destruction of soil structure compared to the ploughed land and improve soil fertility on the surface as accumulation of organic substances on it increases. As rice is cultivated by irrigating water only along the furrows, it needed only half the amount of water needed for ordinary cultivation and protected crops from blight and harmful insects. The number of rice roots doubled that before, which is very helpful to its growth. More important is that it saved much oil as oil consumption per hectare fell to one sixth of that before. If this non-tillage ridged cultivation continues, there is no need for farmers to build ridges again in the next spring. It is only necessary to repair ridges and clean furrows.

Efforts are also being directed to breaking the bottlenecks in applying conservative agriculture, such as raising public awareness of the new cultivation method and increasing investment in it.

Ju Chol Gyu, department director of the Ministry of Agriculture

WATER

Fizzy mineral water turns out in bulk

The Kangso Mineral Water Factory is increasing the output of the world-famous mineral water.

According to Manageress Rim Son Hwa, Kangso mineral water is effective against various kinds of diseases.

In the spring source room of the factory 400 kilolitres of the mineral water gushes out on a daily basis and the water contains 2 800 mg of gas and 172 mg of calcium ion per litre as well as 12 kinds of microelements needed by human body.

The factory has made steady efforts to increase the output and quality of the water.

In order to increase the production of carbonic acid gas which is decisive of the water's quality, it made a new type of gas separator to use not only the gas from natural gush but also that contained in the water. And it installed a device that returns the gas at the injector to markedly raise the quality of the water.

The production lines were also put on a modern basis.

It renovated many facilities in the production lines of glass- and plastic-bottled mineral waters and made the equipment for the 25-litre bottled mineral water.

Many parts of the facilities in the processes of gas and water separation, filtering and water-gas mixing were also made at local factories.

With the establishment of an integrated production system, the whole production processes from the spring source to the shipping area are monitored in real time and controlled automatically at the general control room.

Plastic and glass bottles filled with Kangso mineral water roll off the production lines every day to be supplied to local people.

Recently, a production line for making soda pop with the Kangso mineral water was added to the factory and a bathhouse using the pharmacological effects of the water was built to win favour with foreign tourists as well as the locals.

By Kil Chung Il PT



PAK CHANG BOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Bottled waters roll off the production line at the Kangso Mineral Water Factory.

LEATHER GOODS

Tannery produces chic patent leather goods

Various clothes, bags and shoes made of natural leather were the focus of public attention at the 33rd National Festival of Science and Technology last year.

The products made of cow, pig, goat and sheep skins were particularly popular

with young women as they are good for health for their good ventilation, moisture absorptivity, flexibility and tenacity.

Such goods are made by the Pyongyang Tannery.

The factory makes leather from animal skins from procurement stations, and it also turns out leather products.

"Our factory has set the taste and demand of consumers as the primary standard of consumer goods and holds shows in an effective way by involving the masses to steadily refashion products," said the manager of the

factory.

The factory has set it as the major business strategy to produce a variety of highly-demanded leather goods.

According to a technical worker of the factory, it produces over 20 kinds of natural leather goods.

Among them, men's leather shoes made of cow and pig skins to meet seasonal characteristics have distinctive forms and look stylish. They are winning popularity among consumers as they are flexible, fitting and convenient.

The factory also produces various kinds of bags including men's bags, rucksacks, fashionable and good-looking women's bags and handbags with diverse decorations.

Men's and women's seasonal jumpers, overcoats, vests and gloves made of goat skins are sought-after products for their varied shapes and uses.

The factory's leather products are winning growing popularity among citizens.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT



KIM YONG CHAN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A variety of leather products of the Pyongyang Tannery.

Good species of trees adapted and rooted

Researchers of the Forest and Plant Engineering Institute under the Academy of Forest Science direct efforts to multiplying good species of trees.

The institute has finished the researches into adapting those

trees to the climatic and soil conditions of the country and perfecting the technology of tissue culture on 20-odd species of high economic value.

Compiled from KCNA

INSTRUMENT

Analyser helps farmers know soil inside out

A recently developed multipurpose soil analyser is winning favour with many cooperative farms across the country.

Kwon Hye Ok, workteam leader at the Ryujong Cooperative Farm in Unpha County, North Hwanghae Province, said that the analyser helped them readily find working methods appropriate to soil conditions and her workteam could reap a bumper harvest thanks to it.

According to her, the workteam analysed the soil composition for each plot and then carpeted fields with humus soil, spread slaked lime and suitable organic fertilizers and planted legume seeds.

The device to which one-chip computer technology is applied was developed by the soil science institute of the Academy of Agricultural Science.

The soil analyser consists of the main body with a display screen and buttons, several sensors, an electronic balance and standard reagents.

It can measure promptly and accurately on the spot such main indexes of soil fertility as electric conductivity, acidity and humus content, and contents of

nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and silicon.

With the soil sample collected from any plot, it measures the contents of different nutrients in the soil by means of one kind of extractant at the same time.

Lead developer Kim Hye Ok, department chief of the institute, said that as the analyser is simple in structure, easy to handle and highly accurate and uses no expensive analysing reagents, it is very effective for protecting land and environment and developing agriculture sustainably.

Pak Sung Chol, a farmer at the Mirim Vegetable Cooperative Farm in Sadong District, Pyongyang, said that he can use the portable device without the help of a professional analyst and fully understand soil condition with the help of it.

Developers said the new multifunctional analyser is designed to analyse not just soil but fertilizer, water and substrate.

It now proves efficient in over 140 farms in different provinces including North and South Hwanghae, North Phyongan and Ryanggang.

By Jong Chol PT

SHOW

Pyongyang hosts 22nd biannual trade fair

The 22nd Pyongyang Spring International Trade Fair ran at the Three-Revolution Exhibition House in Pyongyang between May 20 and 24.

The recent event drew many foreign companies as well as local ones. Over 250 companies from China, Russia, Pakistan and other countries and regions displayed metals, electronic goods, machines, building materials, vehicles, medical supplies, consumer goods and foodstuffs.

Such machines as generator, motor, brick-maker and asphalt mixer exhibited by the Fuzhou Landtop Co Ltd and Quanzhou Hengxing Industry Machinery Co Ltd drew special attention of experts in the construction sector.

Women visitors were attracted to the booths of the Dandong Xingyuan Trading Co Ltd and the Beijing Lijunje Import & Export Trading Co Ltd, which were stocked with pressure cookers, versatile noodle-making machines, grinders, air conditioners and furs.

Especially, gruels, seasonings and drinks at the booth of the Shanghai Tohkin Food Group were in high demand among housewives.

Exhibits of local companies were also popular among fairgoers.

The most crowded were the booths selling LED TVs and karaoke machines.

Ri Yong Ok from Pothonggang District, Pyongyang, said that the 52-inch screen of the ELED TV she bought at the Ragwon Technology Company booth was vivid enough to give her a visual illusion.

A member of the technical staff of the Samcholli Lighting Technology Trading Company said that among its power-saving and environment-friendly LED lamps, candle and lotus-shaped table lamps and ceiling lamps were in high demand.

Also eye-catching were kitchenware, sliding doors and other building materials and furniture of the Yehung JV Company and Sangphyong Trading Company, functional cosmetics of the Pyongyang

Cosmetics Factory and medicines and medical appliances of the Jongsong General Pharmaceutical Factory.

The director of the Korea International Exhibition Corporation said the spring international trade fair held every year in Pyongyang plays a positive role in promoting economic relations between nations and economic development in the region, adding the recent event was a meaningful occasion for stimulating trading activities, economic cooperation and scientific and technological exchanges in different fields.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT



The 22nd Pyongyang Spring International Trade Fair opens at the Three-Revolution Exhibition House.

APP

Two-way information sharing app unveiled

The Taerim IT Company has developed a new app, *Pomulsom* (pictured), for browsing a variety of data on smartphones and tablet PCs.

According to its section chief U Song Hyok, it allows users to upload or download special data they want to know or inform in various fields including science and technology, economy and culture.

It stores hundreds of pieces of data in the list of nearly 20 categories including science and technology, society and culture, vehicles, goods, transport, service, trade and tourism.

It has a search function for the convenient use of the program and each piece of data has its lifetime, by which those that are out of date after a lapse of time will automatically be deleted or updated.

It also has a slide show function of displaying searched data continuously with music as TV advertisement.

"*Pomulsom* (treasure island) has a separate 'demand list'. I think it will be most popular among the users in the future, as it helps building up cooperation and exchange between users by

sharing what they want immediately," said an official of the Achim PC Joint Venture Co Ltd.

Scientists also say that it is helpful as the achievements in their research can be introduced into reality in time by making them public immediately.

According to the key developers, ordinary people like to browse the list related to science and technology, goods and tourism. The goods section looks like an e-shop program but it is only for advertisement. The company is not involved in business.

It is also helpful in finding out potential talents as users, though not professionals, can freely upload data like their inventions and technologies.

As it is the first of its kind in the country, the app won popularity at the recent 34th National Festival of Science and Technology.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT



HITS

Sci-tech achievements

Near infrared analyser

Kim Chaek University of Technology has developed a near infrared analyser for the sectors of foodstuff industry and livestock farming.

The analyser equalizes in the section of integration the near infrared rays which are diffused and reflected from samples, converts them into analogue signals through sensors and inputs them into a computer to get analytical models. On the basis of these models, it promptly and accurately measures the content of any samples.

It makes it possible to accurately analyse various nutritive ingredients in foodstuffs in a short time.

Nano-composite antibacterial agent for paints

Researchers at Kim Il Sung University have brought out a new nano-composite

antibacterial agent for paints with good antibiotic effects by combining the contact sterilizing effect of previous antibacterial agent with photocatalyst sterilizing characteristics peculiar to nano-materials.

They synthesized three kinds of nano-materials, parent materials for the manufacture of antibacterial agent, with domestic materials and designed and made the devices needed for synthesis.

The product can be applied to different fields for its high antibiotic rate, long serviceable life and simple making method.

Portable multifunctional prospecting machine

A portable multifunctional prospecting machine has been developed for evaluating the direction and indexes of mineral deposits and the characteristics of ore bodies.

It detects the physicochemical characters of objects of

prospecting with the help of far infrared frequency and picks up fine current signals in the natural dislocation measuring band at the same time to turn into images the stratiform structure of mineral deposits and geological composition by the three-dimensional data space reversed law of interpretation, thereby intuitively showing the space distribution of objects.

The prospecting machine helps analyse the electrochemical process which changes and occurs naturally in the underground lithology in comparison with dislocation and heat distribution fields to find out "hidden ore bodies".

Functional barley health drink

The Jonjin Taeryun technological exchange centre has brought out the barley water, a natural functional health drink, by using locally-abundant materials.

Select and wash the ripe barley at first to put it in the temperature of 15-20°C for

PROFILE

Painter famed for drawing pine trees

People's Artist Ri Kyong Nam (pictured) of the Korean painting production unit of the Mansudae Art Studio is recognized as a consummate painter who is proficient in painting, calligraphy and seal engraving in the world oriental painting circles.

But people call him a "pine tree painter" as he has drawn several thousand pines for nearly five decades. This tells that he has devoted most of his career to painting the national tree of the DPRK.

The pine tree stands sturdily as it preserves green foliage even in freezing winter, striking firm root and stretching strong branches.

The Korean people value this indomitable spirit of the green pine.

Ri's works pulsate with such soul.

At the outset of his career, he focused on portraying the beauty of overall shape of the tree.

But later, he gradually turned to the unique composition that emphasizes any one part of the tree and created his own style of colouring.

In Korean paintings "Morning" and "Evergreen pine" he accentuated the pine



trunks that stand firm spreading fresh branches, though cracked by the severe cold and raging wind in the wilds, in order to portray the looks of socialist Korea that ushered in the present era of victory and prosperity by surmounting all difficulties.

As to his works, an art critic said: "The composition of his paintings is very unusual as it has considerably departed from the traditional idea. Common sense makes you feel that such composition will make the entire picture seem stiff and dull. But unexpectedly, I can see

strength and harmony in his pictures. What injects life into the portrayal of the sturdy yet soft pine tree is the harmony of dark green and blue colours. The inky black pervading the rich colours that are saturated on paper is highly suggestive of the painter's point while gently wrapping the entire picture. His creative charm is that he makes his rich lyricism contained in the canvas rebound to viewers."

In the course of creating his own style of painting, Ri Kyong Nam carved a niche for himself in the artists' world.

His pines have highly been appreciated at national art exhibitions.

He is often asked about his motive for painting the tree and the secret of his success.

"There is a philosophy in pine. The tree gives me creative inspiration as it has soul and will and always keeps its greenness," he says.

He is nearly 80 years old now, but he continues his creative work among evergreen pine trees with undiminished enthusiasm and optimism for a rosier future.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

GOOD JOB

Students do a good job of raising rabbit

Anhak Senior Middle School in Taesong District, Pyongyang, is well known as a unit good at rabbit raising.

In the past decades, the school sent many young rabbits to other schools around the country by rearing rabbits of good breeds.

It was the mid-1980s when it started rabbit breeding.

The school's teachers and students gained a wealth of experience and knowledge of feed, anti-epizootic work and

scientific rearing methods.

"In the course of conducting the do-good-thing movement, a habit of loving labour came to be established among students and they took pride in contributing to the country," said Ji Yong Chun, headmistress of the school.

The school has now seven blocks of rabbit houses, a microorganism culture room, feed processing room, anti-epizootic room and drying

ground.

It has established a well-knit system for preserving and raising pure and other breeds, as well as a strict anti-epizootic system to reduce the death rate of young rabbits.

Not only teachers but also students have an ample knowledge of rabbit breeding by normalizing sci-tech studies.

Teachers say that students properly understand natural science including biology as they engage in rabbit raising.

"We observe rabbits and secure feed grass after school hours. Sometimes we give them simple medical treatment. Rabbit breeding serves as a beneficial course of acquiring practical knowledge," said Ri Jong Hyon, a third-year student.

The national schoolchildren's rabbit show and seminar have been held at the school for decades.

The school has set a higher goal by drawing on last year's experience of sending over 10 000 rabbits to other schools in all parts of the country.

By Jong Sun Bok PT



RYU KWANG HYOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A teacher explains to students about the physiological characters of rabbits at Anhak Senior Middle School in Taesong District, Pyongyang.

HEALTHCARE

Nation works to promote primary health service

Primary health care is one of the top priorities of the World Health Organization today.

The *Pyongyang Times* reporter Kim Rye Yong interviewed Han Jong Ok, section chief of the health management science institute of the Ministry of Public Health, about it.

What is the character of primary health care now in place in the country?

It is based on free medical care system.

A well-knit section-doctor-system has been established in the country with main emphasis on primary health care. The free medical care system embraces everyone in towns and mountainous, rural and fishing villages across the country and household doctors responsibly provide them with primary health care.

It is guaranteed by the law on complete and universal free medical care system and popular policies of the government.

The fundamental principle the government adheres to in primary health care is to bring service closer to inhabitants while focusing on prevention of diseases and health care, pay special attention to the health care of mothers and children and ensure complete equality and fairness.

What are the contents of primary health care?

They include hygienic information and education, prevention of epidemic diseases, supply of clean and safe drinking water, provision of basic sanitary facilities and hygienic and cultural environment, health care of mothers and children, health management of residents, first aid and treatment of diseases.

The hygienic and anti-epidemic establishments enhanced their role in preventing epidemic diseases, with the result that diphtheria, typhus fever and distome have been eradicated, the rates of inoculation against measles

and hepatitis B and three-time vaccination against polio have been raised to over 98 percent, that of vaccination against TB to 97.4 percent, that of three-time inoculation against pertussis, diphtheria, tetanus+hepatitis B5 to 95.7 percent, and 99.5 percent of the total population are using safe drinking water.

Pregnant women are registered, systematically observed and brought into hospital to give delivery service under the government care. And treatment and preventive institutions in charge of sections register all children from their fetal life and nurseries, kindergartens, baby homes and orphanages take care of their health at state expense.

Will you tell me about the national programmes to improve primary health care?

A great deal of energies are being directed to building up the foundations for improving primary health care.

Programmes are now implemented to distribute health facilities and health workers in a balanced way to suit the specific conditions of regions and meet the demand for health care and improve the organization and quality of health care.

Measures have also been taken to train household doctors and build their capacity to meet scientific demand.

Projects are now under way to refashion and upgrade district and county Koryo medicine pharmaceutical factories to supply enough essential medicines and to increase the production of medical supplies. Efforts are being made to improve the medicine supply and management system in keeping with the developing reality.

Scientific research has been intensified to further develop primary health care. Our goal is to make all residents receive enough primary health care on a high level.

Hits: Health drink brewed with barley

FROM PAGE 4

five days to sprout. And then dry the sprouted barley in the temperature below 50°C till its water content reaches a ten-percent level. Mix it with a natural auxiliary material at the certain rate before extracting active components in the temperature of 45-48°C. After filtering the extract, sterilize it for ten minutes in the temperature of 90°C to add a proper amount of natural sweetening material and edible acid so as to filter

it again. Put it into a bottle and sterilize it for 30 minutes in the temperature of 60°C before forwarding it.

According to researchers, the health drink is rich in digestive enzymes including α , β -amylase and invertase. As it harmoniously contains pectin, which helps increase the amount of blood plasma, a natural pigment and antioxidant of anthocyan, it lowers the cholesterol level and promotes blood circulation, refreshing people in mind and having a good effect on the treatment and prevention of diabetes.

By Kim Kum Myong PT

MERIT

Graduates volunteer to teach at out-of-the-way schools

Haeju Jo Ok Hui Teachers Training College in South Hwanghae Province bears the name of the woman who was awarded the title of DPRK Hero for the first time in the country.

The college produced a large number of competent educators over the past five decades.

Among them are those who have dedicated to the education of younger generations at schools on remote islands and at mountain villages since graduation.

According to Rector Kim Sun Hui, volunteering as teachers at remote places is a long-standing tradition of the college. For over 20 years more than 80 graduates went to schools on islands including the islets of Mu, Piap and Mahap.

Many of them had the honour of having photos taken with Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un.

Last March, Kim Ye Gyong and four other women graduates offered to work at schools on faraway islands.

"My daughter had said she would like to teach in town after graduation as she enrolled at the college. But just before graduation, she changed her

mind. I feel proud of her as she chose the difficult post in order to spend a fulfilling youth," said Kim's mother.

Such commendable deeds of graduates are associated with the unassuming devotion of lecturers.

Whenever their disciples leave for branch schools on islets, the teachers earnestly request them to work as befit the foundations of the future pillars of the country, saying nothing is more worthwhile and honourable than to teach younger generations.

Lecturer Kim Ok Gum has been offering her former students working at island schools unstinting support for over ten years. "Her sincere devotion to them is reflected in the teaching tools and daily necessities she always gives to those volunteers," said Ri Sung Ok, department head of the college.

These lecturers and volunteers who are dedicated to the education of rising generations are the beautiful flowers produced by the socialist educational system.

By Pang Un Ju PT

DESTINATION

Folklore street draws many for national flavour

A favourite haunt of people in Sariwon City is Folklore Street at the foot of picturesque Mt Kyongam.

The street covering an area of some 80 hectares is divided into central and recreation ground sections that are dotted with pavilions, resting places and service facilities steeped in national elements.

"Folklore Street is crowded with merry-makers on Sundays and national holidays, which makes up another sight to behold in our city," said Ri Myong Hui, a keeper at the Kyongamsan Pleasure Ground.

On Sundays the street is animated by various folk games.

In the folk game ground, schoolchildren in national costume fly kites, sing and dance around the maypole, kick

shuttlecocks, jump over flower-decorated ropes and play other folk games, and in the folk amusement game hall, people play *yut* (a Korean board game played with four haricot-shaped objects), *janggi* (Korean chess), *paduk* (go) and archery.

And there stands a mosaic mural extending for 54 metres like a folding screen at one side of the game ground. It shows the representative events of the Korean nation classified by ages, affording viewers a fleeting glimpse of its 5 000-year history.

"There are models of some elements of cultural heritage associated with the resourcefulness and wisdom of our ancestors. Among them are the Chomsongdae Observatory, the world's oldest astronomical instrument built in the early 7th

century, *Taewangu* (a kind of howitzer) and *Pigyokjinchonnoe* (a kind of shell) made in the 16th century and Taedongyo Map, the first map of Korea made in the 1860s. In particular, the stone lantern of Sanggyong, which was the capital of the ancient Korean state of Palhae, is known as the oldest one and famous for exquisite workmanship," said lecturer Kim Hye Gyong.

The restaurants built in Korean style serve national dishes that are pleasing to both the eye and palate.

The eateries serving glutinous rice cake, pancake and other national foods make them on the spot and dish them up with *makkolli*, a traditional Korean liquor.

The street is one of the places young people like best to have photos taken on their wedding days.

A wedding procession is quite a sight: the groom in traditional costume including a singular headgear rides along on a horse and the bride in gorgeous attire goes by palanquin, and they are accompanied by a groomsman and bridesmaid also in traditional dresses and attendants including those who play music.

The street is also a destination of foreign tourists.

By Kwon Hyo Song PT



SONG YONG SOK / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

A partial view of Folklore Street built at the foot of Mt Kyongam in Sariwon, North Hwanghae Province.

CUISINE

Chives dishes widely put on table

Chives are often served at tables.

Restaurants serve a rich selection of chives dishes in a competitive manner, and many families prepare the food on a regular basis.

The Koreans have widely used chives for their dietary life since olden times. *History of Koryo Kingdom*, an old history book, describes chives kimchi as one of the foods in the ritual feast of the kingdom.

According to a lecturer at Pyongyang Jang Chol Gu University of Commerce, the perennial plant belonging to the family of green onion contains more protein, vitamin C, calcium and phosphorus than bok choy, carrot, onion, tomato and eggplant, and the content of vitamin E and carotin is the highest among the vegetables in the family of green onion.

Kim Kum Son, Merited Cook at the Sagejol Restaurant who is skilful in cooking chives foods, said that chives are highly nutritious and have unique taste and aroma to go well with other food materials, adding that the variety of chives dishes numbers over 30, including kimchi, dumpling, soy preserved food, broiled mushroom, cold soup and bean paste soup.

The Hyangmanru Restaurant in Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, is famed as a chives dish eatery.

Dumplings served at the restaurant taste good as they preserve the fragrance peculiar to chives and their chewing feeling is soft. Diners say that such hot dishes as roast pork and broiled egg stimulate their appetite as they keep the taste of essential oil and singular flavour of chives.

In the preparation of dishes made of chives, which demand a short processing time, and of auxiliary materials like meat, whose processing time is comparatively longer, the cooks of the restaurant shorten the processing time of auxiliary materials by slicing them and cook chives rapidly by using strong heat to properly harmonize the taste of dishes.

The Munsu Restaurant serves vinegared chives drink with sourish and fresh taste nowadays when the weather is getting hot, winning favour of diners.

"Chives juice mixed with honey is good when one feels languid," said Kim Song Bong, aged 84 and living in Moranbong District, Pyongyang.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

CHILD HEALTH DAY

Special attention paid to child health

On the occasion of Child Health Day on May 20 and November 20 various activities are conducted across the country to improve child health, including vitamin A supplementation, supply of multi-nutrient tablets and deworming with mebendazole.

Since the establishment of the Korea Association for Supporting the Children in November 2013, the association has created a favourable environment and opportunities for raising public awareness of the importance of child health and for sharing experiences and successes made in child healthcare and nutrition management, while arranging different commemorative events.

Addressing the event held in Taedongmun Kindergarten in Pyongyang on May 21 to mark this year's Child Health Day, Kang Pong Guk, vice-chairman of the Korea Association for Supporting the Children, said the

state attaches great importance to the reduction of neonatal mortality rate, regarding it as an essential step towards that of mortality rate of children under five, and also pays scrupulous attention to ensuring child health and balanced nutrition during the first 1 000 days of life.

Noting that the issue of protecting and promoting child

health cannot be addressed successfully by any specialized institution or body, he said it is very important for all families and relevant organizations to have sufficient knowledge and experience of child healthcare.

At a seminar held as part of the event, speakers referred to the achievements and experience obtained in child healthcare including disease control, treatment and prevention.

There were also an artistic performance and amusement games by kindergartners.

By Ri Myong Jun PT



An event takes place at the Taedongmun Kindergarten in Pyongyang on May 21 to mark Child Health Day.

COMMENT

Sixth 'defence programme' another step towards militarization

Japan adopted a "defence programme" for the sixth time last year.

The first one it launched in 1976 focused on building essential capabilities to defend the country.

The second one was adopted in 1995 with an eye to "promoting international peacekeeping activities for national defence".

Through the adoption of the third programme in 2004, Japan opened the door to overseas dispatch of the Self-Defence Forces, and the fourth and fifth ones in 2010 and 2013 set it as targets to develop various military capabilities of the SDF including the mobile and deployment abilities and the ability to attack enemy bases, and to centralize the command system.

As seen above, Japan's so-called "defence programmes" served to build up its armed forces systematically under the signboard of "defence and peace".

Then what does the sixth programme suggest to the international community?

The core of it is the development of "versatile and integrated defence capabilities".

More specifically, the programme is designed to

diversify and upgrade means of cyber and space warfare as well as conventional warfare means.

Five years back, Japan had already organized a cyber defence corps staffed by about 90 personnel, and in 2017 the insular country drastically increased the number of its personnel to 1 000 while empowering it to mount offensives, not confined to defence. As is known, it not only plays a big part in the US' space warfare system but also possesses considerable space assets and keeps increasing them.

Japan's ground, maritime and air forces are negligible neither.

The latest programme specifies that the helicopter transport ship Izumo with a displacement of 19 500 tons, which was commissioned in March 2015, shall be remodelled to carry latest F-35B stealth fighters. Its buildup of the maritime force is geared to increasing its operational command and overseas dispatch capabilities in the Pacific.

In addition, it develops and introduces long-range cruise and new-type missiles and reinforces attack submarines, and it has become an established theory that it will possess the

capacity of "attacking enemy bases", which aroused heated controversy over constitution violation at home and abroad.

Japan has broken the limit on military spending by taking a practical measure for developing the "versatile and integrated defence capabilities"—it boosted the military spending of "1 percent of GDP", symbol of much-hyped exclusive defence, to 1.3 percent.

The 0.3 percent rise seems to be insignificant, but the seriousness of the issue is that the country has paved the way for continuing to increase military expenditure through this increment.

The Abe Cabinet tried to reflect the revision of the "three non-nuclear principles" in the programme on the pretext of the DPRK's nuclear issue, but it failed owing to objection by the Diet and opposition parties.

The current "defence programme" is no doubt a revelation of Japan's wild ambition to become a military power in the near future, and its militarization will pose a serious challenge to peace and security in the region and the rest of the world.

By Om Ryong PT

CONSERVATION

More efforts needed to maintain biodiversity

May 22 is International Biodiversity Day.

Public interest in the protection of ecosystem and nature is now growing across the world and eco-tourism revenue makes up 20 percent of global tourism revenue.

Under the circumstances, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization has released a report for the first time to warn that the world's food production problem will come to a head due to dwindling biodiversity.

Biodiversity plays a pivotal role in boosting the appeal of eco-tourism and an important role in building up the resistance of crops to blight and climate change in agricultural production.

Experts ascribe dwindling biodiversity to the change in the use and management of soil and water, deforestation to put more land under plough, climate change and environmental pollution caused by global

warming and poaching.

According to a report of the World Natural Protection Fund, about 25 000 species of animals are on the verge of extinction and two-thirds of wild animals may be extinct by 2020.

From the geographical point of view, though countries in Central and South America and the Caribbean boast rich biodiversity, most of edible wild species of crustaceans, fishes and insects are threatened with extinction.

According to special organizations and experts, although many countries are carrying on programmes for sustainable forest conservation and scientific research and taking various steps in order to protect biodiversity, there are still lots of work to do and therefore all governments and the international community should make more positive efforts for biodiversity protection.

By Min Chol PT

RUSSIA

Manifestation of will to defend peace and sovereignty

Recently, there was a contest of anti-aircraft missile units "Key of sky - 2019" at a shooting range in Russia's Astrakhan.

Units stationed in the suburbs of Moscow, Kaliningrad, Far East and other regions competed in such events as loading and driving, removal and deployment of combat equipment, and polluted area surmounting, and fired over 50 live shells.

Earlier, artillerymen of a new-type multiple launch rocket system conducted a live shell firing at the Kapustin Yar shooting range in Astrakhan.

Last April, a flotilla of the Kola branch fleet of the Russian Northern Fleet staged a large-scale military drill in the Barents Sea for a fortnight. According to the public information department of the Northern Fleet, seamen successfully carried out about 70 combat missions by using anti-aircraft and cruise missiles, guns, torpedoes, anti-submarine bombs and hand grenades.

Two large-size landing crafts ensured the marine transport of units and the landing of a naval brigade in an unfamiliar beachfront, and conducted a comprehensive artillery firing practice at marine and air targets and an air-defence training as well.

A warship strike group consisting of two frigates

practised how to annihilate an imaginary flotilla by launching a cruise missile.

In the meantime, warships of the Caspian branch fleet waged a drill of conducting missile and artillery firing at marine and air targets and withdrawing from the battlefield in the waters of the Caspian Sea.

Analysts comment that such military drills are aimed at coping with the NATO which reinforces armed forces and frequently stages military exercises in Russia's neighbouring countries.

The NATO has recently established two new centres in Latvia and Estonia in a bid to cope with the cyber warfare with Russia.

On April 12, it conducted an international military exercise in Latvia by involving representatives of the NATO countries, especially the UK, Denmark and France.

Nowadays, strategic nuclear bombers of the US air force make frequent flights close to the Russian border, getting on the nerves of Russia.

The recent military drills conducted by Russia are the manifestation of its resolute will to defend the dignity and sovereignty of the state and regional peace and safety by force of arms.

By Song Jong Ho PT

VENEZUELA

Truth behind the mess in Venezuela

The US has recently intensified interference in the internal affairs of anti-US nations and threats to invade them.

And the Venezuelan crisis it triggered has created a strained atmosphere in the international community.

The designation of Juan Guaido as "temporary president" of Venezuela, recognition of a person nominated by him as acting Venezuelan ambassador to the US and pressure on other nations to suspend financial transactions with the Venezuelan government—all the US actions far exceed expectations. In addition, the US administration nominated Elliott Abrams, a neoconservative who was involved in the Iran-Contras incident and the military coup to support the Nicaraguan opposition forces under the Reagan administration in the 1980s, as a presidential special envoy for Venezuelan affairs.

What then does the US' undisguised intervention in the internal affairs of Venezuela suggest?

The US tries to contain Russia and China and have a monopoly on the abundant natural resources in Venezuela.

Russia and China have concluded tens of billions of dollars worth economic agreements, increased investments and strengthened military ties with Venezuela from the latter half of the 1990s and for 10 years respectively.

The US has become ever more uncomfortable about it in recent years as it did in 2017.

In April and early May this year US State Secretary Pompeo asserted that China and Russia plan to stage a military coup in the Latin-American countries by supplying arms and funds to the Maduro government and the US is ready to respond to it and will act if necessary.

Venezuela is known for the rich natural resources.

Bolton recently told Fox Business that they are discussing how to make American businesses produce oil in Venezuela and it will be in the best interests of the

US to illegalize the Maduro government.

In the new century the spirit of independence has grown rapidly in the Latin-American region. In 2004 Venezuela and Cuba established the "Alternative Bolivariana para la America" (ALBA) and in 2011 the Community of Latin-American and Caribbean States comprising 33 countries except the US was founded.

The US has seen Venezuela as a thorn in its flesh. It labelled the country as a "threat to its national security" in March 2015 and applied sanctions against it by the presidential executive order. A few days later, the US southern army worked out a military operation plan, called Operation Venezuela Freedom.

It is no accident that the American *Wall Street Journal* on January 30 reported that if the military coup in Venezuela was the first US step, Cuba and Nicaragua will be the next targets.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

SOCCER

Premier League clubs clash in annual event

The 2018-2019 DPRK Premier League is in full swing.

On May 19 there were football matches between Amnokgang and Sonbong, and between Rimyongsu and Kigwancha.

Amnokgang, which reinforced the team with young players for the current league, was the focus of attention of both experts and fans.

Most attractive was the fast transition to defence and attack

and creation of many scoring opportunities with sudden counterattack.

In the match Amnokgang tried to score goals by fast breaks on both sides from the middle area.

It continued to threaten the opponent in the goal area with powerful shots based on close cooperation between players, ending the game 2-0 by scoring a goal respectively in the first

and second halves.

Sonbong seemed to have the upper hand in ball possession and shooting in the second half, but failed to score a point in the face of Amnokgang's strong defence.

The match between Kigwancha and Rimyongsu ended in a 1-1 draw.

Kigwancha, holding a relatively advanced position with the help of the general high level of technical skills of its players and employment of various game tactics, played the game in a 4-4-2 formation.

It opened the scoring in the first half after threatening the opponent's goal in succession with fast breaks based on two- and three-men combinations.

Rimyongsu speeded up attack to make up for the loss in the second half, unfolding breathtaking scenes.

Amid the seesaw battle, the club netted an equalizer a few minutes before the end of the match.



PAK KWANG HUN / THE PYONGYANG TIMES

Amnokgang's No. 17 Pyon Kum Dong shoots home an opener against Sonbong in 2018-2019 Premier League.

By Jong Tang Song PT

LEISURE

Fitness centre favourite haunt for young people

New bus lines to the Thongil Street Fitness Centre came into being in different parts of Pyongyang.

"With more and more people visiting the centre, the government assigned dozens of buses to promote their convenience," said Rim Yong Ok, conductress of a bus for the centre.

The centre offers services for indoor and outdoor exercises and health recovery.

It has four indoor exercise rooms, an amusement room, five health convalescent rooms and hydro-supersonic treatment

room, the outdoor football pitch that meets international standards and volleyball, basketball, badminton and tennis courts.

The centre serves from 9 am to 8 pm and accommodates over 2 000 people on a daily average.

Furnished with many kinds of sporting equipment, it is a favourite haunt of not only young bodybuilders but also old and disabled persons.

Choe Myong Ho, doctor at the health recovery room, said that obese persons, diabetics,

hypertensives and functional recovery patients devote much time to doing curative exercises, adding they have to do exercises based on a scientific constitutional analysis in order to make treatment prove effective.

In the room Kim Su Song, first-year student at Chungsong Senior Middle School in Rangnang District, Pyongyang, has benefited from such exercises. He took them to grow tall and grew 7-8 cm after six months.

In the health recovery room such physical treatment facilities as medium-frequency diathermic and ultraviolet treatment machines are much favoured by office workers as they have a special virtue for the treatment of cervical spondylosis, omarthritis, neuralgia and dyspepsia.

"I had pains in the neck, shoulders and arms, but it disappeared after receiving treatment at the health recovery room and doing moderate exercises," said Ryang Song Chol living in Phyongchon District, Pyongyang.

Many women also come to



RI KWANG SONG / PICTORIAL KOREA

The Thongil Street Fitness Centre is popular among people who seek to get into shape and build their bodies.

VICTORY

Divers triumphant at FINA World Series

D P R K swimmers bagged two gold medals, five silvers and two bronzes in the FINA Diving World Series 2019 held in Canada, Russia and Britain.

Kim Mi Rae and Jo Jin Mi took the first place in the women's 10

metre platform synchronized event in Canada and Kim Mi Rae won the women's 10 metre platform event in Russia.

Hyon Il Myong and Jo Jin Mi obtained silver medals in the mixed 10 metre platform synchronized events in Canada, Russia and Britain and Kim



Kim Mi Rae and Jo Jin Mi, gold medallists in the women's 10m platform synchronized event in Canada.

Mi Rae and Jo Jin Mi finished runners-up in the women's 10 metre platform synchronized events in Russia and Britain. Kim Mi Rae won bronze medals in the women's 10 metre platform events in Canada and Britain.

Compiled from KCNA

HERITAGE

Altar relic in Mt Paektu

Mt Paektu standing imposingly in the northern tip of Korea is the highest mountain in the country.

The Koreans had regarded Mt Paektu as the sublime and ancestral mountain of the nation since olden times, as the Great Paektu Mountains stretch out all over Korea to connect its terrestrial vein.

A relic showcasing such fact is still preserved.

There is a hillock-type altar relic in a small basin of Hyangdo Peak on the shores of Lake Chon.

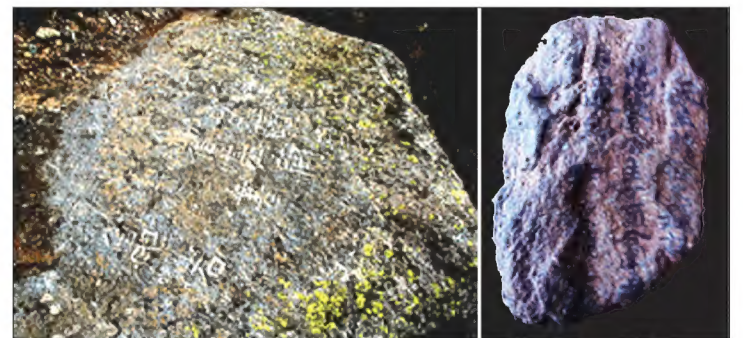
The altar is a place where the kings of the feudal Joseon dynasty (1392-1910) offered sacrifices to God to pray for power.

Inscribed on a stone plate on top of the altar are 24 characters containing the above-mentioned content as well as a note that it was discovered by a man who climbed up the mountain in 1927.

The altar is almost quadrangular with its base being 36 metres long and wide and its surface being 15 metres long and 12 metres wide. It is 9 metres high.

Also seen there is a stone, which is 26 cm long and 20 cm wide, containing a message that people performed sacrificial rites to God wishing for the blessing of a princess.

By Jong Chol PT



Stones bearing letters at the altar unearthed on the shore of Lake Chon on Mt Paektu.

the centre.

Some drop in at the centre to cure mastopathy, but most of women visit to have a good figure.

All the women doing exercises to the tune of light melody in a room surrounded by mirrors

want to have a figure as elastic and slender as their attendant.

The centre has a table-tennis room, barber's, beauty salon, restaurant, shop and other welfare service amenities.

By Ri Sung Ik PT

